

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-5 (cancelled)

6. (new) A fluoride crystal production method of producing a single crystal of fluoride by pulling down a single crystal from a crucible having a hole at a bottom thereof and accommodating therein a melt of a raw fluoride material, characterized in

that the single crystal is pulled down, by forming a face at an exit portion of the hole into a desired arbitrary face shape.

7. (new) The fluoride crystal production method of claim 6, characterized in that the crucible has an outer bottom provided with a projected portion which has a lower surface in said desired arbitrary face shape.

8. (new) The fluoride crystal production method of claim 7, characterized in that the projected portion has a height difference of 1mm or more.

9. (new) The fluoride crystal production method of claim 6, characterized in that the hole is provided in plural.

10. (new) The fluoride crystal production method of claim 6, characterized in that said face shape is configured to be within an extent narrower than an extent which the melt from the hole moves along.

11. (new) The fluoride crystal production method of claim 7, characterized in that the hole is provided in plural.

12. (new) The fluoride crystal production method of claim 8, characterized in that the hole is provided in plural.

13. (new) The fluoride crystal production method of claim 7, characterized in that said face shape is configured to be within an extent narrower than an extent which the melt from the hole moves along.

14. (new) The fluoride crystal production method of claim 8, characterized in that said face shape is configured to be within an extent narrower than an extent which the melt from the hole moves along.

15. (new) The fluoride crystal production method of claim 9, characterized in that said face shape is configured to be within an extent narrower than an extent which the melt from the hole moves along.